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**PUBLIC NOTICE --- REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
WHITE BLUFFS PICKLING ACID CRIBS EXPEDITED RESPONSE ACTION**

This focus sheet is directed to anyone who may be interested in reviewing the option proposed by the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) for the White Bluffs Pickling Acid Crib Expedited Response Action. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) have the responsibility of regulatory oversight for this project. EPA is the lead regulatory agency on the Pickling Acid Crib Expedited Response Action.

The public comment period will begin July 6 and end August 4.

The three agencies will consider all comments before making a final decision on this Expedited Response Action. It should be noted that the public comment period is being performed in parallel with the EPA and Ecology review. This concurrent review is being initiated in an effort to inform and involve the public earlier in the decision-making process.

The Pickling Acid Crib Expedited Response Action was initiated to determine the nature and extent of the environmental hazards and potential cleanup options for the 100-IU-5 operable unit. The Pickling Acid Crib site is located south of the White Bluffs Town Site in the 600 Area of the Hanford Site. The White Bluffs Area was the location of construction activities during the early development of Hanford. Though little is known about the activities conducted at this site, it is believed that the two cribs were used for disposal of waste streams from a pipe fabrication facility operating sometime between 1943 and 1959. Records indicate that the cribs were used for disposal of waste acid used to etch reactor piping.

After construction of the reactors was complete most of the facilities at the White Bluffs site were demolished. The area north and east of the cribs contain debris possibly associated with these activities. These areas are included in and will be further investigated as part of the 100-IU-2 operable unit.

Site characterization activities were conducted in late 1992. The site surveys and soil sampling results indicate that no contaminants are present in concentrations high enough to present risks to human health or the environment. Although the Expedited Response Action site no longer exists as a potential for groundwater contamination based on the sampling results, historical releases to the cribs may have released some chemical inventory to the groundwater. Since the Expedited Response Action site is bordered on three sides by 100-IU-2 operable unit, groundwater will be investigated as part of that operable unit.

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Recommendation

USDOE recommends that no further action be taken at the White Bluffs Pickling Acid Crib. It is also recommended that a "No Action Interim Record of Decision" be issued for the source portion of 100-IU-5 operable unit.

Information Repositories

To review the Pickling Acid Crib Expedited Response Action Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis, please visit the public information repository nearest to your location.

Suzzallo Library
Government Publication Room
Mail Stop FM-25
Seattle, WA 98195
(206) 543-4664

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USDOE Reading Room
Washington State University
Tri-Cities
100 Sprout Road, Rm 130
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 376-8593

Agency Contacts

For more information or to submit written comments contact:

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The Ecology contact for the Pickling Acid Crib Expedited Response Action is Jeff Phillips, (509) 736-3011.

Hanford Cleanup toll-free number, 1-800-321-2008

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